

Application No.: 10/684,382

2001P07203US01
Alfons ZIEGLER**REMARKS*****Claim Status***

After entry of this Amendment, Claims 2 - 8 are pending. By this Amendment, Claims 2 and 4 - 7 are amended, new Claim 8 is added, and Claim 1 is cancelled. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejects Claims 1 - 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, as being indefinite because, as to Claim 1, "the second information unit" lacks antecedent basis, and the terms "communication between the buses and display units is established via second information units" and "processing a second information with priority" are not clearly understood.

By this Amendment, Claim 1 is cancelled. The instant rejection is, therefore, moot.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejects Claims 1 - 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gehrig (U.S. Patent No. 5,937,358) in view of Felt (U.S. Patent No. 6,128,742). More particularly, as to Claim 1, the Examiner essentially reiterates the assertions of the prior June 25, 2007 Office Action. In response to Applicant's arguments, the Examiner argues that Felt gives priority to authenticated messages, but not to unauthenticated messages. The Examiner concludes that, according to this interpretation, "Felt reads upon the claimed invention." As the Examiner cites Felt only for some of the limitations of Claim 1, but not for all limitations of Claim 1 that define the invention, Applicant respectfully submits that Felt cannot "read upon the claimed invention," and that the Examiner's statement is improper. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejections of Claim 1 for the reasons set forth in response to the June 25, 2007 Office Action. These reasons are repeated here.

Notwithstanding the propriety of the instant rejection of Claims 1 - 7, Applicant cancels by this Amendment Claim 1, and adds new Claim 8, as set forth in the above listing of claims. New Claim 8 recites in more detail the various steps of the claimed method, and avoids the terms the Examiner rejects under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph. No new matter is added because new Claim 8 is based on original

Application No.: 10/684,382

2001P07203US01
Alfons ZIEGLER

Claim 1, because the specification explains (p. 4, lines 8 – 18) that for communication between the central unit 10 and the peripheral units 11, 12, 15 a time slot is assigned to each peripheral unit, and Figs. 1 and 2 show the communications via information units INF1 and INF2, and because the specification explains (p. 6, lines 35 – 37) that the bus destination information is deleted from the display unit. Claims 2 and 4 – 7 are amended to depend from Claim 8. Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 8 and dependent Claims 2 – 7 are patentable over Gehrig in view of Felt, as discussed hereinafter.

Applicant agrees with the Examiner that Gehrig does not teach a prioritized processing if a peripheral unit has previously received a key code transmitted with a first information unit and the key code corresponds to another key code contained in a second information unit. Gehrig teaches transmitting messages via data channels, and establishing communication via voice channels. (Abstract) As such, Gehrig's traffic guidance system does not apply a prioritized processing if a peripheral unit has previously received a key code transmitted with a first information unit and the key code corresponds to another key code contained in a second information unit.

Further, Gehrig does not teach deleting bus destination information from a display unit based on the information contained in the second information unit. As defined in new Claim 8, the information contained in the second information unit is processed with priority by the predetermined display unit if the previously received key code corresponds to the another key code contained in the second information unit. Even though Gehrig discloses transmission of a command for canceling a line display after departure of a vehicle (col. 8, lines 29 – 32), there is no disclosure or suggestion that the canceling is subject to a condition, i.e., based on the information contained in the second information unit if the previously received key code corresponds to the another key code contained in the second information unit.

Felt authenticates the identity of a party involved in communicating using the intersection of password sets. (Col. 1, lines 50 – 53.) The Examiner interprets Felt's use of passwords as giving priority to authenticated messages, but not to unauthenticated messages. In Felt, each party has a password set, an authenticated message based on a first password set is transmitted from a first party to a second party, and the second party authenticates the identity of the first party. (Col. 1, lines 55 – 65, col. 2, lines 6 – 17.) However, Felt does not disclose that the second party

Application No.: 10/684,382

2001P07203US01
Alfons ZIEGLER

processes information contained in the authenticated message; Felt merely compares the passwords, and forwards the message. (Col. 1, lines 60 – 62.)

Furthermore, Felt does not relate to a traffic guidance system. As such, Felt does not teach deleting bus destination information from a display unit. Further, as Felt does not teach processing information contained in the authenticated message, Felt does not teach deleting information based on the information contained in the second information unit, as defined in Claim 8.

As discussed above, Gehrig fails to disclose these limitations of Claim 8, as well. Therefore, absent unacceptable hindsight, even a combination of Gehrig and Felt would not lead to the subject matter of a new Claim 8.

In view of the Examiner's interpretation of Felt, i.e. giving priority to authenticated messages, but not to unauthenticated messages, Gehrig's peripheral units would be able to authenticate the identity of another party. However, again absent unacceptable hindsight, the combination of Gehrig and Felt would not disclose or suggest processing the information contained in a message, or deleting bus destination information, as defined in Claim 8.

In view of the foregoing discussion, Applicant respectfully submits that a combination of Gehrig and Felt does not disclose or suggest the limitations recited in new Claim 8. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to pass new Claim 8 to allowance.

Claims 2 – 7 depend from new Claim 8. For this reason and because of the additional features recited in Claims 2 – 7, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 2 – 7 are patentable over Gehrig in view of Felt. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to pass Claims 2 – 7 to allowance.

Summary of the Response

Applicant has responded to the rejections in the January 10, 2008 Office Action by amending the claims, as set forth in the above listing of claims, and presenting the above arguments. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 2 – 8 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw all rejections, and to pass this application to the issue process.

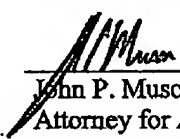
Application No.: 10/684,382

2001P07203US01
Alfons ZIEGLER***Request for Telephone Interview***

The undersigned has made a good faith effort to respond to the rejections raised in the Office Action so as to place the claims in condition for immediate allowance. Nevertheless, if any undeveloped issues remain or if any issues require clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney of record at the telephone number listed below in order to resolve such issues promptly.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 502464 referencing attorney docket number 2001P07203US01. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3/12/08

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